SOCIETY OF PAPER MONEY COLLECTORS TO REVISE ENTIRE WISMER OBSOLETE NOTE LISTINGS

What is undoubtedly the largest group research effort ever made in the long history of numismatics, is being launched by the Society of Paper Money Collectors.

The momentus decision to revise and bring up to date the entire Obsolete Note Listings by States as published in The Numismatist between 1922 and 1936, was first made at the Society's annual meeting in Cleveland in August, 1964.

President Thomas C. Bain of the S. P. M. C. fully realizes the scope and need of this undertaking, as numerous new Listings have come to light since Mr. Wismer's time and the entire resources of the Society have been placed behind this very worthwhile effort to ferret them all out. Co-operation of both Society members and non-members is requested.

The Committee appointed by President Bain for this important Revised Wismer Listing Project is Fred R. Marckhoff, Chairman, and members George W. Wait and Dr. Julian Blanchard. In addition, the daughter of the original compiler, D. C. Wismer, has consented to act as "Special Research Consultant" and to co-operate fully in this great effort. She is Mrs. C. Elizabeth Osmun, of Telford, Pa. She retains unpublished data of her father on scrip issues from various States, all of which will be included in this new work.

As most collectors know, the original Listings were the lifetime work of "that grand old man of numismatics", David C. Wismer, of Hatfield, Pa., who died in 1949 at the age of 92.

A Bibliography of Listings of Obsolete Notes, published in the Fall, 1962 Issue of "Paper Money", the Society's magazine, revealed how little had been done on research in this field since the Wismer and Muscalus Listings of the 1930s and 1940s, however.

But the true magnitude of Mr. Wismer's work has never been fully appreciated by the average numismatist. Yet, it is a matter of record that in a branch of numismatics on which there had not been a single reference work worthy of the name, he compiled approximately 18,721 different varieties of obsolete notes. Some of these Listings have even been put into book form, and all are still regarded as standard references on the subject today, almost forty years later. The author's death prevented many others from being published.

The first step in getting this research machinery in motion will be the Chairman's selection and appointment of a "Chief Researcher" for each State's issues being worked on. A public solicitation of volunteers for this post, is also made herewith. A number of collectors already have begun such works on their home State.

After appointment the Chief Researcher for each State will obtain and assemble all data on notes from whatever sources available. The importance of an active search for new varieties to be listed cannot be stressed too strongly, as completeness is a prime requisite. The Society will aid in this regard by printing a request for additional Listings at the appropriate time. It is hoped much new data will be elicited in this way.

The Chairman will also make available to each Chief Researcher a uniform format to be used in the Listing. Every attempt should be made to come as close to the format as possible in the compilation in order to give uniformity to the work as a whole. But some compromise and variety will be necessary in this area, due to varying circumstances of the Researcher and number of notes involved.

The basic requirement of the format is that of a four-way association in every note description by naming (1) bank or issuer (2) exact date (3) denomination and (4) engraver or lithographer. Without these basic elements, the identification of notes and separation of one issue of notes from another would be impossible in many instances.

When the acquiring and assembling of material has gone as far as the Chief Researcher believes possible, the work will be turned over to Chairman Marckhoff, and then in turn, to each of his Committee members, for review. After any additional changes necessary are made, the work will be sent to The S. P. M. C. Editor, Barbara Mueller, for publication in the Society's magazine.

Each new State Listing may later be put into book or booklet form, possibly in conjunction with the A. N. A., but this phase of the operation has not yet been finalized.

The end result will be a work on Obsolete Notes which for the first time in history will (1) enable a collector to identify his notes by comparing them with a numbered and fully described Listing and (2) give this permanent identifying State number to each note issued, in much the same way Friedberg numbers have been given to issues of greenback currency. These State identifying numbers would read thus: Nebraska-47; Texas-89; Maine-57, etc.

The Chief Researcher in each instance, if he so desires, may also give a town or city identifying number to each note, such as OM-16, for say, a $5 Omaha City Bank & Land Co. note. If other Omaha notes are discovered later, they would become OM-17, OM-18, etc. These numbers, if used, would appear at the end of the note description.

If within the scope of the Chief Researcher, a Rarity rating of degrees, from No. 1 to No. 12, similar to the Criswell works, can be given each note. This large range of degrees may not be needed for a very small State, but it is recommended for States with many issues. Only
an experienced collector and Researcher should attempt this, however, as it

involves relative degrees of rarity between notes in order to establish the correct one for each. Once this is done, however, a monetary range of values for each degree of rarity can also be assigned. But neither the degree of rarity nor the monetary value of one State would have any bearing on those of any other State. Thus, a Rarity 7 of Georgia might be rated worth from $35 to $50., whereas a Rarity 7 in Missouri might might be rated worth from $50 to $75. This monetary value range allows for the difference in conditions of notes.

The detailed history of banks, firms, etc. should be avoided, or kept to the barest minimum except in the small States, due to space limitations. Also, the use of illustrations, while as generous as possible, will be somewhat restricted to the amount of space available. In this connection, however, it is hoped that if these works are put into book form, each bank history available will be included therein. This expanded presentation would also allow a much larger number of note illustrations, perhaps as many as 90% of the total issued, in the smaller States, at least. Chief Researchers should keep this in mind during their compilation, and retain such histories and photos for this possible future use, rather than discarding them.

Spurious, altered, etc. notes, not of genuine origin for any reason, may be listed or described for what they are, but should not be made a part of the numbering system for that State or city.

After much thought by the Committee, the decision of what should, and what should not be included in this Revised Listing was made. It was decided to include all various types of bank notes, scrip, warrants (city, county, military, etc.) in one list. The Researcher should identify such notes at the end of the description with the identifying word, such as, (scrip), (warrant), (Certificate of Deposit), etc., as the case may be. The latter may be included if proof exists as to its use as currency.

Excluded will be business college classroom currency, sitirical, political, advertising notes (unless having a stated monetary value), etc. items, none of which were ever used as money or intended to have value as money.

The great advantage of this method places the currency issues of a State into one Listing, rather than from 4 to 8 Listings to cover each type of scrip separately. The excluded notes just mentioned may be combined into a second Listing, however, without State numbers being assigned them.

Another decision made was to separate issues of notes made under the Confederate and Union governments between 1861 and 1865 in the Southern States, inasmuch as two different political entities were involved.

It is probably understood by most collectors that this Revised Listing will not

include Colonials, Foreigns, greenbacks, fractional currency, 1907 or 1933 Depression scrip, national banknotes or State issued notes of Southern States, so well covered in the Criswell series.

This S. P. M. C. project is certain to be a long term one, and it in noways lessens the Society's need and desire for good articles on every other phase of paper money. If you can write authoritatively on any subject of currency, your effort would be more than welcome by our Editor.

But for this Revised Listing project the Society needs volunteers without delay for the Chief Researcher posts. It is strictly a labor of 'numismatic love', and entails considerable time and effort. But if D. C. Wismer could work up the entire list of 48 States (at that time) by himself at an advanced age, what collector of this material can say that a single State is too much for him? Every co-operation of the S. P. M. C. will be given the Researcher in this effort in addition.

If interested in being offered a Chief Researcher post under the general rules just outlined above, kindly fill out the application below and send to Chairman Fred R. Marckhoff, 552 Park St., Elgin, Ill. Notification of your selection will follow in from 30 to 60 days from receipt of application.

Name......................................

Street ....

City ....

State & Zip Code ....

State Interested In as Chief Researcher:

....

Fred - for your information -
George

March 11, 1964

Mr. ARTHUR D. GRAHAM, Assistant Librarian
P.O. Box 2[illegible]6
Hull, Quebec

Dear Mr. Graham:

On December 11, 1963 you wrote me to see if we'd be interested in an exchange of our publication for the C.N. Journal. Because of some extensive changes in our organization including a new editor and printer I was unable to reply sooner.

Our magazine "Paper Money" for the first quarter 1964 is now at the printers and should be distributed in about three weeks. Unless I hear to the contrary, it will be addressed to you.

Your CNA Journal should be sent to Mr. Fred R. Marckhoff, 552 Park Street, Elgin, Illinois. Mr. Marckhoff is our Assistant Editor and Librarian.

Sincerely,

Reply made along with return of $5 on 1-21-65

Box 391, Concord, N. H.

Jan. 17, 1965

Mr. Fred R. Marckhoff
552 Park St,
Elgin, Ill.

Dear Mr. Marckhoff,

I am much interested in your announcement that Wismer's list of obsolete bank notes is to be revised. I have all the Numismatists that carried his lists and have quite a number of notes he doesn't list. You mention that the revision will include scrip, but in another place say it will not include fractional currency. I feel that a listing of the fractional issues by banks and merchants, particularly of the Civil War period, are most in need of study and listing, since practically nothing is available on these. I have about 70 to 80 varieties of these issued in N. H. and several from other states.

I am particularly interested in New Hampshire paper money and planned to revise the Wismer list for this state. I am editor of the NONAGON, bulletin of the N. H. Numismmatic Assn., so have contact with a large number of N. H. collectors I know of a couple of other serious collectors of N.H. paper. I am interested in serving as chief researcher for N. H. However, if others are interested I am more interested in getting the job done than in being desgnated chief. Possibly co-chiefs might work out.

I do not know what dues are for SOPMC but am enclosing $5.00 which may be applied toward my membership. I am a member of TAMS and CNA. As secretary of N.H. Collectors' Club I recieve the Numismatist so don't feel need to join ANA.

Sincerely,

Wayne S, Rich

P.S? Please clarify whether fractional scrip will be listed. Wismer included a few such as Concord, Manchester, and Lawrence R.R. .

FRED MARCKHOFF

Box 165
Glen Ridge, New Jersey
February 2, 1965

Dear Tom:

I have Fred's letter of January 27th. Glad to hear that we have so many volunteers to be chief researchers on the Wismer project.

Up to now, I had visualized this project as to being of primary benefit to the Society -- not to the general collector. We were looking for magazine material -- and we still need it. This must be our number one objective. I realize that it would be a long time before we could publish all of our listings -- but it also will be a long time before our chief researchers complete their job. Unless we get some real eager beavers, real dedicated folks, it will be many months, maybe a year or two, before any large state is finished.

Fred's idea of publishing the lists, state by state (with some combinations) is a good one and I think we can do it cheaply, without the ANA. As we send our lists to Stowell for our magazine, we can ask Stowell to keep the type set up. Then as we finish a state (or combination) we can ask them to do a reprint and put a cover on it. The illustrations and quality would be the same as in the magazine. The whole thing would be identical. Our costs would be very nominal and we could advertise it in the various numismatic publications. We could have a publications manager!

If our supply of publishable material becomes excessive later on, we could drop the magazine listings and concentrate on the booklets. Until we get a real backlog, our magazine must be #1 in our thinking. While I enjoyed our last issues, I think you will agree that we should try to go back to our 28 pages of a year ago and try to expand even beyond that. Our financial position should now be improved enough to afford it -- it is just the lack of material which holds us back.

Fred, would it be logical to split the larger states where you have duplicate volunteers?

I agree that Ellis should be consulted as to whether the various researchers would have any rights in respect to reprints. Probably Glenn would know, from his experience with the ANA.

Am still looking at Bradber's book on colonial notes. Think I will ask for the minimum price the heir will take for it, with the understanding that we can make drastic revisions in it where necessary.

Best regards,

George Wait

Copy to:
Dr. Julian Blanchard
Fred Marckhoff
Barbara Mueller
J. Roy Pennell, Jr.
Glenn Smedley

THOS. C. BAIN
3717 MARQUETTE DRIVE
DALLAS, TEXAS 75225

2/10/65

Dear Fred:

When the Committee agrees on the format have a 100 copies duplicated and send bill to me & I will o.k. for payment. We have a good line. But in checking it is funny as we are getting in shape to take bids on our new 5 million dollar Bldg for Snap.

Send each Researcher, including Ray Pennell, a copy of the format and tell them they want the material to conform with the format if we use it. I will write Ray.

When the format has been sent out to Researchers and they complete their work the Committee should put their stamp of approval before we accept it for publication either in book form or for our magazine.

Surely this is our major Project I would

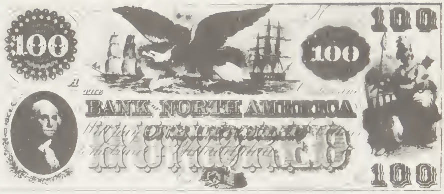
like to see it done right, and in my opinion Book form is the best way. I think 10,000 copies of each should be printed and each researcher can purchase a large number at a little above cost and sell as he desires to make money. He will also sell to many others on a wholesale basis to make a little for the Society.

Keep up the good work.

Regards

Tom

GEORGE W. WAIT
Box 1[illegible]5
GLEN RIDGE, NEW JERSEY



February 10, 196[illegible]

Dear Fred:

Among your applications for Chief Researcher, I think you have one from Mr. L. C. Leggett (#566) who would like to do the state of Mississippi.

I do not know Mr. Leggett personally but have had some correspondence with him which indicates he is an ardent collector. This week I received a letter from Warren Addkison (#190), a fellow Bell System employee for whom I have a high regard, recommending that Mr. Leggett be given serious consideration for the assignment. Mr. Addkison says that Mr. Leggett is a serious student of Mississippi history and has already completed a lot of research that would be useful in preparing the Wismer list. Mr. Leggett is well known in Mississippi, and is Secretary-Treasurer of the Mississippi Numismatic Association. Presumably, he would have access to well known Mississippi collections, such as that of Byron Cook.

Possibly you may have applications from others who would like to do Mississippi, and I would not ask you to exclude them from consideration -- I just want to point out that in Mr. Leggett we evidently have an applicant with the ability and enthusiasm to do a good job.

Best regards,

George

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
ORGANIZED 1891–CHARTERED BY CONGRESS 1912
GLENN B. SMEDLEY
1127 WASHINGTON BLVD. – OAK PARK, ILLINOIS 60302

February 11, 1965

Dear Fred:

Thanks for passing on to me the $1 note of the Farmers' and Traders' Bank, Charleston, Ill. I will enclose my check for $17.50 in payment with this memo. As you said, the note is not a choice one but then neither is it a poor one. Not having one on this bank, I'm happy to have this one.

George Wait wrote to Tom Bain on February 2 with copies to several, including you and me. At the top of the second page he refers to the experience with A.N.A. in providing copies of reprints to authors. We have no fixed policy in this respect but usually do not give the author more than one or two copies of a reprinted book or pamphlet.

However, in talking to Editor Bradfield, he expressed the feeling that it might be a good idea for the Society to offer a fixed number of the proposed reprints to the authors. The cost to the Society would be very modest and the offer of ten, fifteen or even twenty-five reprints to each author might be an incentive to undertake the work.

Since the project is in an indefinite state at present, I did not raise the question of A.N.A. participation. Will you please pass on to others in the Society any of the above that you feel they should know?

Sincerely,

Glenn

CLAUDE W. RANKIN

COLLECTOR OF U. S. COINS & CURRENCY

Specializing in North Carolina Notes

Member: ANA, MANA, NCCCA, CFCC and SPMC

110 ANDERSON STREET FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

February
seventeenth
1965.

Mr. Frank R. Marckhoff
#552 Park St
Elgin, Ill.

Dear Mr. Markhoff :

I understand you plan to publish a book on broken bank notes of each state. Mr. J. Roy Pennell, Jr has just completed such a book on Nroth Carolina Broken Bank notes and it will beoff the press in a few days. He can give you a greatdeal information on this subject and I suggest you contact him.

I am interested principally in State of North Carolina Obsolete Notes, 1861 & 1864, and Broken Bank Notes of North Carolina. Have some duplicates and will be glad to swap with you.

Cordially Yours

Claude W. Rankin.

CWR/edc

PS

Mr Pennell's address is Anderson St

MEMBER
AMERICAN NUMISMATIC
ASSOCIATION
No. 3119

SOPMC No.193.

Mrs. C. Elizabeth Osmun

NUMISMATIST

OBSOLETE
PAPER MONEY

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
418 Acorn Ave.,
Telford, Penna. 18969.

February 18, 1965.

Mr. Fred R. Marckhoff,
Elgin, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Marckhoff:

Enclosed I am sending you -D. C. Wismer's Unpublished - "Descriptive List of Obsolete Paper Money - PART 11- Embracing the Circulating Notes issued by Individuals, Companies, Associations, Cities, Towns and Counties. Private Issues known as Scrip." of ALABAMA. This List was completed in June-1936. Since then and later on I have been working on a Supplement List which consists of twenty-nine additional varieties to date.

Yes! I have read with interest and careful attention your article "SOPMC Plans to Revise Wismer's Obsolete Note Listing by States" in the January 20th,1965 COIN WORLD magazine. It will be truly "a tremendous numismatic labor of love, as D.C.Wismer's was "a Monumental task of love" blazing the trail where no footsteps were visible.

I believe that the Wismer Numbers should be preserved in the Revised Listing- using the Letters(Ws).

Would you kindly send me - a uniform format- to be used in the Revised Listing? I would like to see it.

Separating the Confederate and Union Government issues of notes, will be somewhat of a problem- between 1861 and 1865, but I suppose it can be done.

Thank you for the title "Special Research Consultant", and I will do everything in my power, to help bring it to a successful termination.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

C. Elizabeth Osmun
S.R.C.

Enclosure.

Feb. 24, 1965

Mrs. C. Elizabeth Osmun
418 Acorn Ave.
Telford, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Osmun:

Thank you much for the Listing of Alabama scrip. It will be the nucleus for further work on that State.

Although I hope soon to have them run off in more volume, I purposely typed up the enclosed "Sample Format" for you, of an issue of Nebraska. The format is really presenting as much detail of the note as is necessary in as concise a way as possible. It follows your father's method of presentation closely. The only real difference is the inclusion of all data common to all notes summarized at the end to save space and avoid repetition. This entire issue is described in 23 lines, and probably will be less in printed form. A new collector thus has a good description, the State number of the note, the degree of Rarity, the Wismer number, the City number of the note (if desired), and of course the number of notes necessary to collect in order to have the whole issue.

All States will not fit into this format, but the majority should. Western States, like Utah, Oklahoma, etc. might be exceptions, due to almost exclusive use of scrip, with few if any banknotes. I have already met this problem in Utah, on which I have 265 varieties, all of them scrip except 3. The write-up in Coin World & Numis. News should be retained, as it gives the "dos and don'ts" of what goes into the listing.

Chief Researcher posts have not been assigned as yet, butsoon I hope. Let me know how closely you think you could follow the format for Penna. I have your application from Paul Seitz, who hasx volunteered also but is always pressed for time, Richard Hoober of Glenside, Pa. and a Geo..Robak of Johnstown, Pa., whom I do not know. Mr. Hoober is very co-operative, no matter if selected or not, and will furnish much data he has; he also is a very busy man.

Nebraska, which I have in completed form for about a year, will likely be Book I of the Series. If you have any data or notes not previously mentioned, I would appreciate learning of them soon, as I will make final typewritten Ms. up within next two weeks. I enclose very rough first sketch of Book Cover, which would be similar to all others to follow. Please return it with any suggestions, as I have to take this up yet with Committee and Pres. Bain.

If you have any scrip listings of Utah, I can use these, or scrip itself, plus Nebraska and Kansas.

Kind Regards,

Very Sincerely,

encl: Sample format
Rough Nebr. cover sketch

Feb. 25, 1965

Mr. J. Roy Pennell, Jr.
Anderson, S. C.

Dear Roy:

Glad to hear from you and to get your views on the various subjects under consideration.

I enclose herewith a typed up copy of a Sample Format, from my Nebraska Listing. Actually, it follows the Wismer format rather closely, except that the features common to ALL notes are summarized at the bottom, to save space and avoid repetition.

Thus, a prospective collector has before him a complete description of the notes, the degree of rarity, the corresponding Wismer number, the State number assigned each note in alphabetical and denominational sequence, the city number of the note (if desired), and the notes given of each separate issue, listed just as the issue was originally made. He would know what kind and how many notes he needs in order to have the entire issue, as well, for his collection.

Out of curiosity, I wonder if the $3s and $5s you list can be broken down into as many issues as there are of a denomination, from the engraver, date, colors, type of engraving, etc. In short, can a $3 be identified with a $5 in each instance?

You have good reasons for selecting the format that you did, and without doubt it is the best work done on the subject thus far. But I do believe the matter of association of notes common to an issue is the important one, and if it isn't done by the Society in this effort, someone else will. The ultimate Listing will be the one that can say, in effect, "Here is how this issue was made, and this one, and this one, etc. etc."

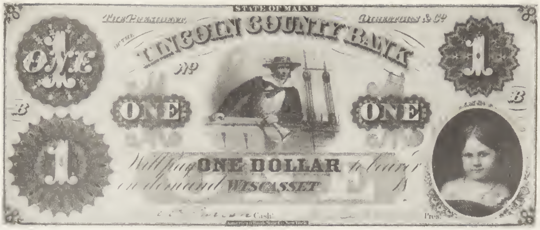
After making up the format, not much thought has been given to other possible formats, but can sound out the Committee members on yours, if you desire and immediacy is not a problem.

Are you going to be at the FUN or Central States Meet in Mar. and April? If so, we could discuss it at length.

Kind Regards,

Very Sincerely,

SOCIETY OF PAPER MONEY COLLECTORS



PRESIDENT:
THOS. C. BAIN
VICE PRESIDENT:
DR. JULIAN BLANCHARD
SECRETARY:
GEORGE W. WAIT
TREASURER:
GLENN B. SMEDLEY
EDITOR:
~~HANK BIECIUK~~
BOARD of GOVERNORS:
CHARLES J. AFFLECK
THOS. C. BAIN
HANK BIECIUK
DR. JULIAN BLANCHARD
ROBERT H. DICKSON
BEN DOUGLAS
MICHAEL KOLMAN, JR.
MORRIS LOEWENSTERN
FRED R. MARCKHOFF
JULIAN MARKS
ARLIE R SLABAUGH
DR JOHN H. SWANSON

Barbara R. Mueller, Editor
523 E. Linden Drive
Jefferson, Wis. - 53549

February 25, 1965

Dear Mr. Marckhoff:

Thank you for the interesting article on Lord & Williams. I have already started processing the photos for the engravers and have taken photos of the pictures of Mr. Lord and Mrs. Williams. If these turn out OK, I will return them to you in about 10 days. Otherwise I will have to try a different technique.

PM no. 13 is now being printed. It was a problem issue--two long "must" articles, a long new membership list and lots of last-minute ads. To hold to 28 pages, I had to do a lot of cutting and so will use the correction to your article next time. I hated to go to 32 pages because that way I would use up too much of my backlog.

Sincerely,

Barbara

MEMBER
AMERICAN NUMISMATIC
ASSOCIATION
No. 3119

OBSOLETE
PAPER MONEY

SOPMC No.193

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
FOR STATE and LOCAL
HISTORY.

Mrs. C. Elizabeth Osmun

NUMISMATIST

HATFIELD, PA.
418 Acorn Ave.,
Telford, Pa. 18969.
March 1, 1965.

Mr. Fred R. Marckhoff
552 Park Street
Elgin, Illinois. 60120.

Acknowledgment of:
Your Feb.24thletter-with enclosures
Sample format & Rough Nebr.cover sketch.

Dear Mr. Marckhoff:

Enclosed I am returning your "Nebr.cover sketch" together with a sheet of suggestions.

I am retaining the "Sample Format" of Nebraska. It does seem to be a concise and practical listing.

As to RARITY: 1 to 12, please tell me how do YOU determine it? What is the scale? Is 1- the commonest, and 12 the rarest? I have the January 10th"Coin World" Page Sixty-Four - at my finger tips -for reference.

Regarding NEBRASKA* I have examined all my Card Indexes, also additional information about this State. No additional notes are uncovered, but did find a page from the Sept.,1909 - Philatelic West* with "Early Bank Bills of Nebraska" by -W.A. Ackerman, Omaha. I noticed that he lists "Com. Exchange Bank" which I believe should be "Corn Exchange Bank". Also, he lists a $10 Bank of Florence Note, whidh I do not think was ever issued. Also the"OMAHA,CITY-OF*OMAHA BANK- issued Oct.1,1857- $1,$3 & $5.00" Jesse Lowe, Mayor, H.C. Andusae,Clerk" I suppose that has reference to the City of Omaha -Scrip -of Nebraska. You may keep this item. In addition, I have a Notation - that the OMAHA PUBLIC LIBRARY- have many specimens of EARLY BANK NOTES. Also - that "banking was a crime in the early days of NEBRASKA" That is the limit of my information on that State.

With regard to "Chief Researcher for Pennsylvania" -I sent my - Application to Mr. Paul S. Seitz of Glen Rock, Pa., for his approval, as I know he is an AUTHORITY on Obsolete Paper Money issued in Pennsylvania, and wanted him to forward it to you, which he did after a telephone conversation with me. I am happy to know that you had good response from Pennsylvania. Mr. Richard Hoober of Glenside, Pa., is not very faraway from Telford. I have enjoyed his Articles in THE NUMISMATIST about COLONIAL NOTES,ETC. I think that I could follow the "format" -closely for Penna. But you make your own decision as I know I will be kept extremely busy as SPECIAL RESEARCH CONSULTANT, submitting information to the many CHIEF RESEARCHERS OF ALL THE STATES.

A SUPPLEMENT to the D.C.Wismer ALABAMA SCRIP LIST- will be forwarded as soon as I finish it. As to Scrip Listings of Utah, Nebraska and Kansas- I will follow that shortly.

Sincerely,
C Elizabeth Osmun

Enclosures(2)

RICHARD JONES
P. O. BOX 1981
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

March 6, 1965

Mr. Fred R. Marckhoff
552 Park Street
Elgin, Illinois 60120

Dear Mr. Marckhoff:

As a member of the Society of Paper Money Collectors and a collector of all types of Virginia obsolete paper money, I would like to help out in any way I can in the listing of Virginia paper money. Has anyone yet been chosen to compile the listing of Virginia material? I am certainly not qualified to be a chief researcher, but perhaps I might be able to add a little information here and there from the notes in my collection.

I would also like to know just how much detail will be needed in the descriptions. Many Virginia notes have written dates, and in many cases the very same note can be found issued over a period of 5 or 6 years or more, all with different written dates. In cases such as this, do you intend to list all the exact dates known, or merely make mention that dates are written, with perhaps a range of year dates during which a note was issued? I have also noticed, particularly among the Virginia County and City issues, and a few of the bank notes issued during the War Between the States, that there are many notes of the same general design, obviously printed from different plates, with very small differences in ornamentation, type of letters, relative position of lettering, an extra comma here and there in the terms of redemption, etc. I do not see how it will be possible to describe all these little differences, and for most collectors these differences would be of little or no real importance. It is very difficult for me to decide just where to draw the line at listing these very minor varieties, since the only way to point them out would be a series of comparative illustrations, which would certainly get out of hand very quickly.

A problem which has always bothered me is that of finding a safe and suitable method of mounting my collection. I have tried the transparent photo corners and find that they are completely unsuitable for notes which are badly worn or those printed on thin tissue paper, as many of the Virginia County issues are. They also tend to wrinkle the corners. For the past several years I have used a strip of mikafilm stuck to a piece of magic mending tape placed over the four corners of the notes, such as the example I have enclosed. This system seems to work much better than the photo corners, since there is little danger of them "turning up" and wrinkling the corners of the notes, and it seems to work well on worn notes as well as those printed on thin paper. These strips also allow for expansion and contraction of the notes when the pages of an album are turned.

In the near future I plan to re-mount my entire collection using 8½ × 11 Ful-Vue mikafilm sheets, but I am not completely satisfied with these corner strip mountings. If you have any suggestions on how I might be able to better mount my collection, they certainly would be appreciated. I know we all want to preserve the notes in our collections in the condition in which they were received, but it is very difficult to do this without a really safe and suitable method of mounting and display.

Thank you for any information you can give, and if I can be of any help to you in your listings in the future, just let me know.

Sincerely

Richard Jones

(Mrs) C. Elizabeth Osmun.
418 Acorn Ave.,
Telford, Penna., 18969.

March 11, 1965.

Mr. Fred R. Marckhoff.
552 Park St.,
Elgin, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Marckhoff:

It was good to heer from you in your 3/8/65 letter.

Yes! I will give my onehundred-percent co-operation in the new ways of listing that all have decided upon recently.

Enclosed: 1*Utah (Scrip) Listing of all that are in my records*
2*Also: Supplement to the D.C.Wismer "Nebraska Descriptive List" all I have added since 1949.
3*Together with; Nebraska Scrip List.
4* Fourteen Utah Scrip Notes* which you may keep at whatever you think they are worth to you.

My special interest, of course, is concerned with Obsolete - HISTORICAL" BANK NOTES, issued in the U.S. from 1782 to 1866.

As to RARITY, I have a very broad experience in this line as I assisted my father in a clerical capacity for about twenty-five years, and he had the largest stock of obsolete notes, as well as, Collections, in this country. His RESEARCH Activities covered a Period of fifty four (54) Years from 1895 to 1949.

I was interested in learning that there was a $10 Bank of Florence Note, and have added it to my historical data. That note should be Rarity 12.

I have my "fathers Entire-Listing-of-Obsolete-Paper-Money, so can assist anyone as to the Wismer Numbers.

Mr. Richard Hoober wrote me a very nice letter saying he would be pleased to help me in the Compilation of the Revisee Listing of the Wismer Descriptive List of (Pennsylvania) Obsolete Paper Money.

My historical records and card indexes have been rearranged in first-class order, so that there will be no delay in giving and/or submitting historical information to the different Chief Researchers.

Sincerely,

C. Elizabeth Osmun

THOS. C. BAIN
3717 MARQUETTE DRIVE
DALLAS, TEXAS 752[illegible]5

3/17/65

Dear Fred:

Am mailing the item today. Had to have it done as we are all busy on the specifications for new 12 story building that goes out for bids on May 1st. Everyone is working night and day.

I have spent some time contacting Board members and others on the following.

1. Whether we print them in Book form or in our magazine.

2. The cost of printing 2500 to 5000.

3. Distribution.

Nothing is clear at this time as I am still receiving information. I will check with whoever is it is a good idea.

I do know we do not have the money to print

in Book Form unless Whitman or others will put up some money.

I would like to know your response to this Resolution within 60 days to see how many States we might complete.

The copy of the cover is good but the commm. [illegible] should all comment on it.

Geo. is wanting to buy a lint on Colonial but I doubt if we have the money.

Sincerely

Tom

1 Sheridan Square
New York 14, N. Y.
March 19, 1965

Dear Fred:

For some time I have had it in mind to send you some comments on your proposed format for listing bank notes, but I am afraid I have waited too long.

On the whole I think your model covers the requirements pretty well and is certainly an improvement over some other lists we have had. However, one or two points occur to me which might be worth considering.

In the case of a bank having more than one series of notes of the same denominations, produced by different engraving companies (such as some of those of Michigan and Georgia, for example), I think it would be clarifying to list some like that and show just how their numbers would be arranged, also the series summaries at the end, including imprints. In addition, I think it would be well to show how counterfeit and altered notes would be treated with respect to their position in the numbering order. I think a revised format including all such varieties would be most helpful. If not for real notes, maybe for imaginary notes, just for illustration.

We are aware that Wismer ignored counterfeits and altereds. In his lists I have spotted counterfeits (and one of Ormsby's model notes) treated as though they were genuine. I don't recall at the moment any listing of altered notes. It seems that he didn't pay too much attention to such matters. Maybe he was not as counterfeit conscious as we are.

Another comment on quantities of booklets to be printed. It seems to me that all proposed quantities are much too large. We are not likely to sell <u>thousands</u> of <u>any</u> state, and there is the problem, as you have mentioned, of prepaying for such large numbers, also of storing them awaiting sales. And the question of who is going to personally attend to all this storekeeping and merchandising over the years is really something to think about.

George Wait and I have talked over most of the letters that have been passing around and we have been in pretty close agreement on most points - one reason I have not been expressing my views, as he has virtually been doing it for me. As he has said, at the beginning one reason for tackling the Wismer revision was to provide material for our journal. Now we all realize that it would take many years to run all of it in "Paper Money" - longer than ~~most~~ many of us will live. And hence comes the idea of just running some of the shorter lists there, as we need copy, and have the type held for reprints, the other lists to be separately printed, outside of the journal. Now if this plan is carried out, one thing we must watch out for is uniformity in the final product - size of page, type face, paper, arrangement, etc. And here I will say that I certainly would not like reprints the size of our present journal
~~pagexxxRightxfromxthexbeginningx~~

page. Right from the beginning I have been in favor of changing the page size of "Paper Money". It is inconveniently large , also wasteful of space. I merely mention these details as things to keep in mind and carefully work out in our planning before we are too deeply involved.

One other point about printing the lists. Some will be much larger than others, a few very short indeed. I don't think it will be practicable to have some 20 or 30 or 40 separate pamphlets. Very, very few collectors would buy them all - certainly not thousands - and it seems quite likely that those collecting only certain states would ignore most of the other lists. Therefore I think it would be best to combine states so as to have the least possible number of pamphlets, or books. And this again is something that will take a lot of planning and thinking about.

You are certainly to be commended for your enterprise, ideas and enthusiasm in taking the lead in this big project. I don't know anybody who could take your place. If the thing can be accomplished you are the one to put it through - and we are here to back you up. My comments are in no way to be looked upon as discouraging, but simply to put us on our guard about some possible troublesome details, so that we can more surely make our plans.

I will write you another letter before long about some other matters you have asked about - particularly vignettes.

My best to you -

JB

Julian Blanchard

March 22, 1965

Mr Fred R Marckhoff
Elgin, Illinois.

Dear Mr Marckhoff

I accept the appointment of chief Researcher for Indiana.

I am a school teacher - and have very little extra money for postage - As you know numerous letters per month can be costly. I have 2 children in college & I must make my cents count.

I will do all I can. I do not take the News but do take the Coin World.

I give away my back copies so I might not have the issue, so can you please the general rules etc,

Also how do I know what Wismer's number of Indiana notes are.

All I have is the Skeen listing from the Numismatist of 1961.

I do feel that all notes sent to any chief Researcher should be insured & that the note owner should send postage for insurance back.

How do I arrive at the rarity of the notes? what bases?

Sincerely Yours
Donald A Schramm

Donald A. Schramm
225 N. Hayes St.
Portland, Ind. 47371

Mar. 22, 1965.

Dear Tom:

Thanks for the copies of the Format and Appointments, 31 of which have already been sent out.

The more I think of manner of printing, the more it is becomes clear to me that magazine publication of these works would be a physical impossibility. For it would take 3 to 4 years to print any one of Wismer's books on New York, Ohio or Penna. And his were only bank note listings, ours will be an all obsolete note listing, scrip, etc. This can be tested by seeing how much can go into 12 to 16 magazine pages.

Even with new data received from Mrs. Osmun, I will have Nebraska in final typed Ms. form by early May, leaving only the photo taking remaining. If it were feasible, would like to see it in print before the year is out, and perhaps the permanent details for the balance could be worked out later, using this as a sample, especially if the same printer were not used. It would serve as a stimulant, guide, etc. and give the whole effort extra good publicity. Utah and Wisconsin are also well along.

I enclose a list of Researcher appointments made thus far, You state you desire this list "to see how many States we might complete." If we keep at it we will finish ALL of them, but it means the more active members will have to do as many as 4 or 5, perhaps as a team. Even those States with Researchers may take as long as 2 to 4 years to complete, so it is a stick-to-it-until-finished job, rather than a time limit job.

Heard from Geo. Wait on Mar. 14 and he did not mention Colonials, so maybe he has dropped the idea. I have no application from you, Tom, on Texas, but thought you were interested Bob Medlar of Lubbock just wrote he would be interested in Texa so do you want to be Chief Researcher, and him Associate Chief, or what? In any case, you two could work together.

A few applicants are not on our SPMC member ll check with Roy Pennell, but is this a requisit

GEORGE W WAIT
Box 165
GLEN RIDGE, NEW JERSEY

Dear Fred:

Enjoyed your article on Lord & Williams in the new magazine. This was a good issue, although it seemed to me that the pictures weren't as clear as usual - a little fuzzy, even in the ads.

Per your suggestion, I am writing to Mr. Moss. Yes, John Connors probably has the largest New York collection, but is about 80 and almost completely disabled. He can't do the job and his collection will not be available to use. Last time I saw him, he couldn't see his own collection! I will write to Moss, offering mine - about 500 N.Y. notes. I'll let you know what, if anything, he says. Incidentally, about 75% of all New York Bank notes in collections are counterfeit or altered. The scrip notes of course are O.K.

Glad you are considering Wismer for our magazine. We could add more pages to the magazine so as to include a lot of listings in each issue - maybe a complete state in some instances - the Society is now much better off financially. True, we would have a distribution problem for the reprints, but I think not too bad - they could be shipped to one individual who has adequate storage space and who could send them out as necessary.

Have visited with Paul Seitz a couple of times recently. A great guy - but I get the impression that he will be unable to do much with Pennsylvania for a while - at least until he retires from the bank about a year and a half from now. He has a very large Pa. collection and he selected 20 notes from my collection that he didn't have - I guess we'll have a trade going.

Best regards,

George

copy of letter to Moss enclosed

RICHARD G. BOWMAN
2290 South Sherman Street
Denver, Colorado 80210

777-3341

REAL ESTATE

- *commercial construction*
- *sales*
- *development*

March 24, 1988

15¢ - Gov't
Tobacco Rd
Cigar Store
Black Hawk Post

Mr. Fred R. Marckhoff

Dear Fred:

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Cordially

Colo. Supply Co.
DENVER
5¢; 10¢ Sept. 1st 1904
5¢ Oct. 1st 1896
5¢ Apr 1st 1901
10¢ Sept. 1st 1899
5¢; 1¢ Mar 1st 1902

5¢ Colo. Telephone Co. - Jan 1, 1890
DENVER

$2 Sutler's check Fort ...

Colorado notes known about or belonging to: Fred R. Kerckhoff

Colorado Supply Company, Denver

5¢ Issued Oct. 1st, 1896

10¢ Issued Sept. 1st, 1899

5¢ Issued Apr. 1st, 1901

5¢ and 10¢ Issued Mar. 1st, 1902

5¢ and 10¢ Issued Sept. 1st, 1904

Colorado Telephone Company, Denver

5¢ Issued Jan. 1, 1890.

Fort Lyon, Col. Ter.

$2 Sutler's Check. 186- . 'Good For Two Dollars Payable In Merchandise.'

Labor Exchange, Denver, Colo.

5¢ $\left(\frac{5}{100}\right)$; 10¢ $\left(\frac{1}{10}\right)$; $1.00. Dated 1897.

[illegible] Tobacco And Cigar Store, Black Hawk Point, C. T.

15¢ Good In Trade. Dated March 2, 1863.
By "News Print, Denver".

[illegible] excluding the Clark, Gruber, Cook Co. and United Supply Co. issues, which you no doubt already have.

Mar. 26, 1965

Mrs. John R. Neal
R. R. #3
Bloomington, Ill.

Dear Mrs. Neal:

Thanks for your acceptance as Chief Researcher for Illinois. I think you will keep busy on this State, so have given Maryland to Mr. Leonard H. Rothstein and several others.

I also enclose the 1-page copy of our Coin World article, giving the "Do's and Don'ts", as well as a reprint from the Scrap-book of my Summary Listing of Illinois notes. Also returned here-with are the clippings you so kindly sent along, very interesting.

If I were doing Illinois, here is about how I would go at it: Devote 1 ledger page or a letter sized page to each issue, which can be added onto from time to time, and from which the final Ms. can be typed. Create an index in front by name of bank & page, for ready reference when needed.

Obtain Wismer's Ill. Listing appearing in The Numismatist of Aug. to Dec., incl., 1923 on loan from John [illegible], ANA Librarian, Box [illegible], Lincoln, Nebr. [illegible], and copy as is. Wismer's and the enclosed list will serve as a guide for issues to be embellished on. The Autumn, 1959 issue of the Ill. State Hist. Quarterly contains a later version of the enclosed Summary Listing. Also, later can send numerous photos of notes taken awhile back, from which descriptions can be taken.

There is much detailed work in this effort and hope you enjoy this kind of doing. Will be glad to answer any questions you have. If you can complete it within 3 years it will be a tremendous effor

Very sincerely,

Fred R. Marckhoff
[illegible]
FM

March 28, 1965

Mr. Fred R. Marckhoff
552 Park Street
Elgin, Illinois

Dear Mr. Marckhoff,

I am in receipt of your appointment as chief researcher for the states of Idaho and Montana. It is with a great deal of pleasure that I accept these appointments.

As I have misplaced my copy of Coin World that contained the general rules and regulations, I would like to receive another copy of that article. I also assume that there are other more specific information that you will be sending in the near future.

This project should be of great benefit to all of the collecters of obsolute currency and I am glad to do my share. Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Philip A. Stewart

Philip A. Stewart
P.O. Box 403
Bigfork, Montana
59911

SOCIETY OF PAPER MONEY COLLECTORS

INCORPORATED

PRESIDENT:
THOS. C. BAIN
VICE PRESIDENT:
DR. JULIAN BLANCHARD
SECRETARY:
J. ROY PENNELL, JR.
TREASURER:
GLENN B. SMEDLEY
EDITOR:
MISS BARBARA MUELLER
BOARD of GOVERNORS:
THOS . C BAIN
DR. JULIAN BLANCHARD
WILLIAM P. DONLON
BEN DOUGLAS
NATHAN GOLDSTEIN II
GEORGE D. HATIE
MORRIS LOEWENSTERN
FRED R. MARCKHOFF
PAUL S. SEITZ
ARLIE R. SLABAUGH
GLENN B. SMEDLEY
GEORGE W. WAIT

THOS. C. BAIN
3717 MARQUETTE DRIVE
DALLAS, TEXAS 52

3/30/65

Dear Fred:

Go ahead and appoint Smedley chair of Nominations for 2 years as I am tied up with too many SPMC items at this time & trying to arrange everything for convention and getting By-laws in shape.

You have done a good job in getting Resolutions and I hope all can be carried.

I hope to receive some information soon to my questions so I can poll the Board.

Sincerely,

Tom Bain

HARLEY L. FREEMAN
353 SOUTH ATLANTIC AVENUE
ORMOND BEACH, FLORIDA
32074

March 31, 1965.

Dear Fred:

This is going to be a hard letter to write, mainly because I have not yet made up my mind just what I am going to say, or how to say it. I have your short note of a few days back together with my appointment as "Associate Reasearcher" for the state of Florida, to be working with Art Lovi, who is the Chief Researcher. Fred, I am the last person to seek glory or publicity. In fact, I rather shun the spotlight but this has sort of set me back on my heels.

I don't want to take a thing from Art for he deserves plenty of credit for his ambition and efforts at the numerous conventions and coin shows. He is evidently pretty well heeled and has formed sizable collections which he displays at the drop of a hat. I know him only slightly,having met him at a couple of the FUN conventions and we did have breakfast one morning at the Cleveland convention at which time we talked at some length about his collections and he was going to write me after he got back to Pensacola. I am still waiting for his letter. So, I have no idea how extensive is his collection of Florida material or his knowledge of the issues but I doubt it is very broad. So, how he can materially add anything to the old Wismer lists without my cooperation remains to be seen.

Wismer lists 64 numbers, the great majority without description as he never saw them. As you know, I have seriously collected this state for 16 years. I have purchased four or five major collections including my choice of the Wismer collection, Criswell got the balance. I got the Fred Boyd collection, which was a dandy and now have somewhere in the neighborhood of 600 notes including the state issues of the war period, covered by Criswell and which I am sure are not of interest in your Wismer revision, but it does include a great many issues of scrip of the territorial period and early statehood, which I feel should be included. What is your committees thinking along that line? As for Wismer's 64 numbers, without dragging my books out of the vault, I am sure I can treble that, with the scrip and with the scrip, run to at least 400.
out

The other major collection is Grover Criswell's and then probably, Bolling Stanley's, of Tallahassee. There are several other smaller collections, all of which I have examined and of which I have either photostats or records of their holdings. Also, I have contacted every museum or historical society of any note which housed any collection of this material and have photostats or photographs of those notes they own, not in my own collection. And, my collection is probably the only one arranged with re-constructed plates as you are trying to complete. Not even Criswell bothers with the plate letters. I do.

This brings up another point. Two of the members in the Jacksonville Coin Club have been after me for a couple of years to allow them to photograph my notes, edit my material and publish a book on the subject. At the last meeting of the Jax Coin Club, which I attended, not knowing this subject was to be brought up, they asked for financial support from the Club to help them defray the costs of photographing a sizable number of my notes. It caught me with my

pants down as I had no idea they were going to spring it on the club but the club does have a sizeable treasury and they voted to allow them a fixed amount toward such a project if I agreed. In this mornings mail I have a lenghty letter from one of the boys asking when he can pick up some my material or if I can arrange to have the work done in Daytona Beach. I had already contacted two sources getting prices on photographic work on about 200 notes. But, regardless of this endeavor, I would much rather so the SPMC do the work along the Wismer lines and see all of the states and territories included. I have threatened for years to do Florida on my own but admit to being pretty darn lazy. It would be a work of love, not proift.

So, where do we go from here? How extensively do you plan to illustrate the lists? Do you plan to include emergency issues of the 1861-1865 period, which embraces much of the scrip of this state, or just limit the lists to the chartered banks as listed in your good articles on the subject in Coin Collectors Journal. There were several Railroad Banks in Florida and a couple chartered about 1859, which were very shortlived. And, again the private issues by individuals and cities. What about them.

Which cames back to the subject of Lovi. Knowing the scarcity of the several Florida issues, I am sure he can not possibily have many of the bills of the short lived banks and not too many of even the more common ones. So, unless I agree to offer my material, which I assuredly am not going to ship all the way to Pensacola for examination, I am afraid your lists are not going to be anywhere near complete. Have you contacted Grover Criswell for his cooperation and if so, what has been his reaction? I was going to write him tonite but instead will wait till I hear again from you. He is going to be hard to get to agree as he has been after me for a couple of years to cooperate with him in one of his series on this subject but again, I just can not see a complete work on Florida being published, using mostly my material and the credit going to Criswell as well as the profits. Not that I care about the latter, but my thinking has been that if by any chance someone seeing such a book, comes up with a new type or issue, I would at least like to have enough publicity or recognition in the book that it might be offered to me, rather than Grover. Maybe a selfish thought but then, I am still collecting.

This has been a long letter and I have talked just as if we were conversing in my library. I am sure you can see my thinking. I don't want to be petty about this but if 80% of the listings are to be from my collection and numerous records, I do want that fact emphasized. I also feel that Criswell and Stanley should be included in any such mention, for tho the latter concentrates mainly on the issues of Tallahssee, he does have some of the only known notes. The Chase bank, WRHS and others likewise deserve mention when theirs is the only notes known of certain issues.

Well, lets close that subject. Have added a couple of Fla. notes in the past several months together with a number of Fla. tokens which I am listing up for publication in TAMS. Pat Provenza, of St. Augustine is cooperating with me on this list. We have over 200 at present.

Weather is super down here and the college kids like it. It has been a good season business wise. We are starting to build a new bank, an affiliate of our OB 1st National and have an application in for another. Mainly trying to keep Daytona Beach banks from coming into the area. See I am at the end of the string so will sign off and await your reply. Don't get me wrong, I'll work with Art but insist on equal or major billing along with those others who furnish data.

Sincerely,

Harley

April 1, 1965.

Dear Fred:

I wrote the first two pages of this letter last nite, read it, decided it was my feelings so signed and sealed it ready for the morning mail. Then tossed in bed for several hours wondering if I was being petty or childish about the whole matter, I also wrote John Shannon, one of the Jax boys, after writing the letter to you, explaining how things stood and suggesting that he and Bob hold off any action till we saw how the SPMC plans progressed.

This morning, still bothered about the matter and not having made a carbon copy of my letter, I opened it and re-read what I had written and it has not changed my thinking. I'll sit tight till we hear what Art Lovi comes up with, either in ideas or completed lists and suggest you do not contact him or advise him of my feelings on this matter at the present time. He may have acquired more of a collection than I think is possible but that I doubt but, knowing the time and the money I have put into this subject and the amount of study and research and correspondence involved, I just can not see someone else get the credit for that information, much as I want to see these lists revised.

One other question. Just how much illustrating do you plan and who is financing that? I have been getting costs locally and as you well know, it is not cheap. I do feel that some notes should be illustrated which brings up another thought. As long as you are planning on giving the various notes numbers, why not standardize a number of stock vignettes, scenes, portraits etc. giving them identifying numbers and start off the lists with those first. Then rather than lenghty descriptions of those on each note thru the entire series, use just the assigned number for that particular die. This idea springs from my arranging my collection according to printers and engravers, rather than states. Of course, that collection is now well split up now but Blanchard and the Chase collections certainly would be a good base to work from.

Well, this is off my chest so I'll sign and add to my last nite's pages and still have time for the morning mail. Good luck on this project and the best to you personally.

Sincerely,

Apr. 3, 1965

Dear [illegible]:

Glad to get your informative letter. Although I have 10 or 11 letters to write, am taking yours first, as there always is an [illegible] to your letters [illegible] out of 100 these days.

I will try to reply point by point to the subjects you mention. First, we had no response to the filling out of applications of [illegible] for Florida, except [illegible]'s. I called [illegible] and he admitted not being an expert but was willing to do the job as best he could. I sent the application to you "on my own", not knowing how interested or how much time you could or would devote to it. When Art first joined A.N.A. he sounded off about everything and everybody [illegible], but he had the right idea on everything. He has quieted down now, and if his energy can be harnessed in the right direction, he could prove a valuable worker. Anyway, this explains [illegible], mainly because there were no replies from anyone else.

[illegible], I did not know how extensive your Florida obsolete and scrip collection was. I am not sure of George C.'s co-operation as he has worked lately on other projects [illegible] to his family and [illegible] health. If you could get [illegible]'s co-operation, I believe we could [illegible] even so. I have [illegible] this up with Art, and [illegible].

While we cannot stop anyone else from making [illegible] listings if they desire, one [illegible] would be the "official" listing of [illegible] for each obsolete note, such as [illegible], etc. etc. My only suggestion on the Florida club project would be to [illegible] take photos of the notes, [illegible] if you are allowed to [illegible] from which [illegible] could be made. The latter could then be made a part of our "official" effort, plus [illegible] information.

How would this be for a procedural course? I will make you a [illegible] along with Art, [illegible] co-operating and George, they would be Associate [illegible]. [illegible] understanding with Art would be that you would handle both your own and [illegible], and he would take care of all others; would leave it up to you both as to who would approach George with best results.

If you would [illegible] loose leaf [illegible] or a [illegible] to each [illegible], you will [illegible] ready reference to add to from time to time, and eventually from which the final [illegible] can be typed. [illegible] at the front by [illegible] name would help to locate desired one readily each time. Art could do the same for his, [illegible] of [illegible].

I believe the [illegible] Coin World article [illegible] "do's and don'ts", so will not go into it deeply, unless you have further questions on it. All [illegible] will be listed, with the [illegible] ([illegible]) in parenthesis either at top or

ord of each note's description, if only a few, for that issue. Please keep this Coin World page as it is one of the few extras I obtained from them. Confederate scrip will be listed separately from other scrip, as a different governing entity was involved. For numbering, these listings would follow the regular listing.

Our main right now is trying to line up a printing and distribution set-up. Our first thought was to publish these works in the Society's magazine, but since States like New York, Penna, Ohio, etc. would each take from 2 to 5 years to do so, of necessity, it looks like they will go directly into book form.

But without a set-up of some kind with Whitman, or Clarke, or the A. N. A., both the printing cost and distribution problems remain. Nebraska may be the first book, if above is worked out, as I've been at it for past several years, and even with some very recent late finds making it almost 100% complete, will have the final typed Ms. ready by early May. It has over 150 listings, compared to Haxby's 77. There may be a half-page or page in the 2nd issue of our Magazine soliciting funds to get this first book "on the road", as it would serve as an introduction, guide and extremely good publicity for the whole effort. But our final format for size, cover, etc. has to be first agreed upon. Once this is done, following books can be duplicated without trouble, even with a different author.

As for number of illustrations, the most that can be said now is that as many will be used as is editorially and economically possible. The printer, whoever it may be, will likely have a voice in this also.

The only item I would not go for is the numbering of vignettes, portraits, etc. as it would lead to endless cross-checking of page after page to see what actually was on a given note. This might work if all readers were experienced collectors, but for the little difference in space, I believe it would create more uncertainty or confusion than it would save in the few pages less required.

I would think that your Florida work would be between 1 and 2 years in completion, even working it rather constantly, as there is endless detail to detect and compile.

How well I have answered your questions or doubts I don't know but have tried and if you have others or more on these, kindly let me know.

Don't know if or not you are a Robert E. Lee fan or not, but just ran onto a check bearing his portrait, dated 1862, from Savannah, Ga. to Charleston, S. C. This is the only currency of ANY KIND I've ever seen or heard of with his portrait on it. If it were an complete note it would be worth from $300 to $500. If you think you are interested, will send it along. Will hold until I hear from you. Cost is 35. I searched high and low for his portrait on something in doing my Civil War article a few years ago, but all to no avail, and was certain none existed.

Let me know your thoughts on the [illegible] subjects, and with kindest regards,

Very Sincerely,

S. FRED ROSENTHAL
XXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXX 13800 Shaker Blvd.
SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO 44120

Dear Mr. Markhoff:

I had been away and upon my return to Cleveland found your letter of March 19th, asking me to be Researcher for Ohio for the Wismer revision project. Am glad to accept, but wish to ask a few questions, which I hope you will answer for my clarification.

1. When do you expect this project to be completed, as it entails a great deal of time, if done thoroughly.

2. Will you send me a copy of the General rules, as I did not keep a copy of the Coin World article.

3. I do not understand, why every note, which is already listed correctly in Wismer, has to be listed over again in detail. Isnt this supposed to be a supplementary list, which can be added to the existing Wismer items?

4. In your sample format you do not mention dates of notes, which Wismer gives, dont you want this informattion also Wismer gives dates of Charters of the various banks. Is this not important information.

5. Does the Society or you personally have a list of good Ohio money collection, to which I might refer for additional items, in order to make the list more complete.

6. Would it not be best to have the numbers added to the list, after your researchers are satisfied, that there are no more numbers to be added?

Apr. 7, 1965

Dear Mr. Rosenthal:

Glad to hear from you re the questions on the [illegible] Project, and [illegible] you are far better experienced and qualified than [illegible] others we have had to work with.

In reply, will use the numbers you did in the questions:

(1) As a project, I [illegible] this work will take as much as 10 years, as we still do not have Researchers for some States, and these will have to be done last, [illegible] more active members. As for Ohio, [illegible] you complete it [illegible] 3 years, I [illegible] say it was a [illegible] job, as there is much detail [illegible] on each [illegible], as you know.

(2) Enclosed is a copy of the Coin World article.

(3) No, this list will not be a [illegible] my own, it will be a [illegible] one, with [illegible] 3 times as many listings as [illegible], as we are [illegible] scrip, warrants, etc., not just bank notes as he did. Our list we hope will be complete in itself, no need to refer to other listings.

(4) Our [illegible] dates of notes, in the [illegible] list at the end of the description [illegible] (3), it will be given. If [illegible] [illegible], it might as well be included directly after the [illegible] of [illegible] and before descriptions begin. I do feel Ohio will be long enough without long histories of banks, but short [illegible] o. k. if [illegible].

(5) [illegible] has no collection; I have a fair one; [illegible] 1 I believe. [illegible] has many State Bank issues. [illegible], [illegible], if you [illegible] to get them in next 3 years. [illegible], [illegible]. [illegible], we will [illegible] [illegible] whenever you are ready.

(6) [illegible], numbers [illegible] last thing to be done, when all listings are in. [illegible] final typing of [illegible].

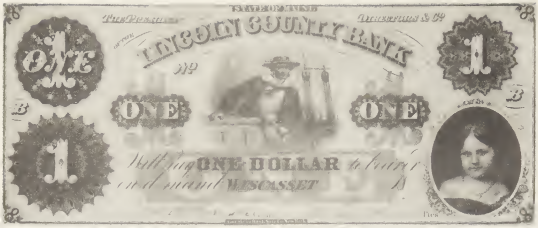
[illegible] a longer page or a page of paper to each issue which can be added [illegible] from time to time, and from which final [illegible] [illegible] if you [illegible].

Good luck!

[illegible],

SOCIETY OF PAPER MONEY COLLECTORS

INCORPORATED



PRESIDENT:
THOS. C. BAIN

VICE PRESIDENT:
DR. JULIAN BLANCHARD

SECRETARY:
J. ROY PENNELL, JR.

TREASURER:
GLENN B. SMEDLEY

EDITOR:
MISS BARBARA MUELLER

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:
THOS . C. BAIN
DR. JULIAN BLANCHARD
WILLIAM P. DONLON
BEN DOUGLAS
NATHAN GOLDSTEIN II
GEORGE D. HATIE
MORRIS LOEWENSTERN
FRED R. MARCKHOFF
PAUL S. SEITZ
ARLIE R. SLABAUGH
GLENN B. SMEDLEY
GEORGE W. WAIT

THOS. C. BAIN
3717 MARQUETTE DRIVE
DALLAS, TEXAS 75225

5/5/65

Dear Fred

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] looking

[illegible] to the printing of your

project [illegible]

[illegible] worth

considering.

The Board [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Best of luck

Tom Bain

SOCIETY OF PAPER MONEY COLLECTORS

INCORPORATED

PRESIDENT:
THOS. C. BAIN

VICE PRESIDENT:
DR. JULIAN BLANCHARD

SECRETARY:
J. ROY PENNELL, JR.

TREASURER:
GLENN B. SMEDLEY

EDITOR:
MISS BARBARA MUELLER

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:
THOS C BAIN
DR. JULIAN BLANCHARD
WILLIAM P. DONLON
BEN DOUGLAS
NATHAN GOLDSTEIN II
GEORGE D. HATIE
MORRIS LOEWENSTERN
FRED R. MARCKHOFF
PAUL S. SEITZ
ARLIE R. SLABAUGH
GLENN B. SMEDLEY
GEORGE W. WAIT

THOS. C. BAIN
3717 MARQUETTE DRIVE
DALLAS, TEXAS 75225

7/2/65

Dear Fred:

Am enclosing copy of a letter from Kenneth Bressett.

You should contact him and send your completed copy after you tell him how it is to be set up.

He should get the same money that he pays Neil Shafer for his paper money book.

Tell him I told you to write as I'm busy with the Convention and it is 270 miles away and I have to go down most every other week.

Let me know how you get along.

Sincerely,

Tom Bain

GEORGE W. WAIT
Box 165
GLEN RIDGE, NEW JERSEY

July 2, 1965

Dear Mr. Moss:

I am on the Wismer rewrite committee with Fred Marckhoff and Dr. Julian Blanchard.

Fred tells me that you are head researcher for New York. This is the largest project and I guess will take up a great deal of your time. When you get ready to look at other collections, you may wish to contact me. I have approximately 500 New York notes and in addition, I would be glad to make arrangements for us to see Dr. Blanchard's New York notes.

Would be glad to discuss any phase of this with you. You can reach me at the above address, or if you prefer you can reach me during business hours by dialing 571-2818 in New York City.

Fred Marckhoff would appreciate a periodic progress report in order to lay plans for the completion and publication of the over-all project which of necessity must be considered long term. Should any complications develop which would interfere with your handling this assignment, we would like to have immediate word from you in order that a substitute researcher might be appointed.

Sincerely,

Copy to Fred M.

July 6, 1965

Dear Tom:

Just got your letter and the copy of the one sent to you by Ken Bressett of Whitman's.

Before contacting him, I thought it best to contact you first on a matter of policy, first seen by me in your letter of June 24, of which I received a carbon copy.

In it you mentioned the "six to ten" books required for the work. This was the first I had heard from anyone about a reduction in the number of books from previously discussed figures, including at Central States Show in Chicago recently.

While I know this combining is a printer's delight, I do believe in this case it would present problems that would work against the project.

It would mean that before a book could be printed, a wait for the necessary number of State works would have to be made each time. This work cannot be hurried, however, and once in the hands of a researcher there is nothing to do but await his completion. This waiting for 1 more work or for one just the proper size to fill out the book, could mean months lost each time. It would even mean a wait of perhaps as much as 2 years from now, before 4 or 5 more works are done, to go along with the one completion---Nebraska. And in each instance, there would be no regard for the geographic or alphabetical arrangement of States---just a group tossed toget

I knew some collectors at least who would refrain from buying a work on, say, Indiana, if he had to buy 5 or 6 others along with it he is not interested in, at extra cost to him.

Actually, I have been against this method from the start for no other reason than I believe each State of any size deserves a reference work of its own, say from Kansas-Nebr. size on down,

There would of course, still be a necessary combining of the smallest States, such as, Colo., Idaho, Mont., Ariz., N. Dak., S. Dak., New Mex., Nev., Wyom., Alaska, and W.Va.

I would prefer, over this 6 to 10 book idea, the printing by our magazine of all States works (which still could be done) except the 7 or 8 largest, but print up only, say 1500, in book form. These larger ones would toward the end have to be contracted for on the most favorable terms.

The only objection I have to this magazine printing first is that the members get all this hard work and data for literally nothing, just the cost of membership and the magazine. This feature would eat into sales somewhat no doubt, hence 1500 copies would suffice if done this way.

Also, I am not sure I understand fully about this fee we are to get from Whitmans. Up to now, the talk has been has been that we pay them for so many copies, the rest to become their property to sell at their own figure I presume.

If we get this fee, does this mean that ALL copies become their property, or would we still obtain 500 or so copies at or near cost to the Society? Perhaps these two payment figures could be made to balance equally.

Do you know if I am correct in assuming that this fee is really for the copyright privilege?

I don't know how any change in this 6 to 10 book idea would affect Whitmans interest, but with your permission, I believe this should be fully thrashed out with them now to avoid misunderstandings later. If we can retain some control over the way these works are done, I believe whatever fees we realize should be put back into the venture to get it done more the way we want it, rather than the printer, as much as possible anyway.

Let me know on this as soon as convenient, Tom.

Very Sincerely,

Fred R. Marckhoff
[illegible] Park St.
Elgin, Ill.

July 10, 1965

Mr. R. R. Rockholt
1489 Clayridge
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Mr. Rockholt:

I have got word to proceed full speed ahead on my Nebraska listing, so inasmuch as this would delay my finishing up the entire Minnesota list, I am not going to hold you up with proceeding on researching, hence am giving you herewith the INCOMPLETE ISSUES. These are the ones left to be worked on, and also enclosed are a group of specific questions on specific banks or issues that would resolve important questions about them, did they really exist, what denominations were issued, etc.

The list follows, and in each instance below, I give you the issue and the status of information I have on it:

ANOKA

5¢ Anoka Store, dated 11-20-62.

BROWNSVILLE

15¢ A. McMichael & Co., no date

FORT PLAIN

15¢ Fort Plain Bank, have no description, date, etc.

FRANKFORD

10¢ Charles Lamb, dated 11-26-62.

HASTINGS

5¢; 10¢; 25¢; $1; $2 Bank of Hastings
5¢; $1; $2; $5 Thorne's Bank

MINNEAPOLIS

5¢ Treasurer of Minneapolis, have no description, date, etc.
5¢ R. J. Mendenhall, dated Jan. 1, 1862 (not same as 1-10-62 issue).

PLAINVIEW

10¢; 50¢ O. Wilcox, dated 1862.

ROCHESTER

5 Cents H. A. Brown, dated 1862.

ST. ANTHONY

5¢; 10¢; 15¢ 25¢ D. B. Dorman, Banker, dated 1862.

ST. CLOUD

10¢ Town of Saint Cloud, dated 1862.

ST. PAUL

$1 Borup & Oakes, dated 1854
5¢ F. & G. Willius, no date
5¢; 10¢; 25¢; 50¢ Treasurer of City of St. Paul, dated 1862 (all identical

ST. PETER

5¢ and $1 Edgerton & Donahower, no description ,date ,etc.

SHAKOPEE

20¢ Treasurer of Scott County, dated 1862.
5¢ D. L. How, dated 1862.

SOUTH BEND

5¢ Eckstorm & Bro., dated 1862.

TAYLORS' FALLS

50¢ Town of Taylors Falls, dated 1862.

TRACY

5¢ H. E. Braughton (or Broughton), date not known.

WEST ST. PAUL

$1 and $2 Treasurer of City of W. St. Paul, 1st or 1858-9 Issue
$1 and $2 " " " " " " " 2nd or 1861 "

WINONA

5¢ and 10¢ Treasurer of City of Winona, dated 1862

In other words, about every one of the above firms issued more than the above one or two denominations, the questions is, what other ones and how many?

The specific questions on specific banks are these:

1. Did Dayton Bank of St. Paul ever exist and operate? Was it ever incorporated? It is not mentioned in several books on Lyman Dayton I have read.

2. Did a 'Merchants Bank' ever exist in Mankato? Its currency is dated 1854, but this is considered a phony issue. Town itself was founded in 1852.

3. Is there any documetary proof that a 'Merchants & Mechanics Bank' actually existed in St. Anthony Falls? A story in Chapter 33 of Minnesota Cenntennial

3.
Booklet states it was founded in 1853, yet its currency is considered spurious I am wondering if historian did not conclude this was an actual bank just from seeing this issue of currency, which he believed authentic.

4. Did Minneapolis City Council authorize an issue of currency in 1862-3, and if so, in what denominations? My list includes only the 5¢, with no description.

5. If you see any 'Bank of Rochester' $5 notes with other than a letter "A" serial letter, it would help establish original sheet arrangement of this issue presently unknown. These would be Letter "B" and "C".

These last 5 questions require original first hand research. Whatever you learn of any or all of them would make for a far more authentic listing, not to mention any filling in of the missing denominations on any issue.

I got a chance to spend a few hours with Mr. Woolworth of the Historical Society last week, after getting a few unexpected vacation days. I completed descriptions of the several I did not have, making the enclosed list a full one of items I have on uncompleted issues.

Also enclosed is your Certificate of Appointment as Associate Chief Researcher for Minnesota, and with kind regards,

Very Sincerely,

552 Park St.
Elgin, Ill.

Mrs. C. Elizabeth Osmun
Telford, Penna.

Dear Mrs. Osmun:

Glad to know you liked the little article on "Lord and Williams, Bankers and Brokers". Thanks for the additional data on the boletas. The references I had did not indicate the animals pictured above the 75¢ denomination.

The 12th paragraph in the article on the Revised Listing was written almost a year ago, and represents the earliest decisions on the matter. Actually this phase has not yet been finalized. Because we have no distribution facilities or set-up, it would be advantageous to locate a publisher who already has such a facility. Just from a mechanical standpoint, we could print all State works in our magazine, except for 5 or 6 of the largest States, such as New York, Penna., Ohio, Georgia, etc. These would each take several years or more even run in supplemental form in the magazine, and would seem endless. But the biggest reason I would have against magazine publication of these works, is that our members would be getting all this tremendous work, time and even money the Researchers are putting out, only for the price of their membership. It would also eat into book sales, as many would just refer to their magazine.

Sadly enough, the A. N. A. has no fund to underwrite projects such as this, as the American Numismatic Society has. I fear the most co-operation we can expect from the A. N. A. would be the purchasing of 500 or so copies of each work, to sell at Conventions, etc. And they cannot commit themselves beyond one year, so whatever they decided upon, would have to be renewed every year.

Our Alabama Researcher is: Walter Rosene, Jr., 127 Oak Circle, Gadsden, Ala., 35901. I will be forwarding the data you sent to me on this State to him this week-end, and if you have additional data, you may forward it to him direct. If I working all States alone, as your father did, I would begin with Alabama, but with simultaneous effort being made by many, it would be impractical to wait for each State to be finished in a alphabetical sequence.

Whatever data you have on any of the States would be welcome, at your own convenience. I know that any article you write will be appreciated by all our membership, as well as our Editor.

Very Sincerely,

July 14, 1965

Mr. Charles F. Blanchard
Law Offic es
Wachovia Bank Bldg.
P. O. Box 1565
Raleigh, N. C.

Dear Mr. Blanchard:

It is certainly good to hear from anyone who offers his services as a Chief Researcher for our Revised Listing Project, especially if they are a nephew of our Vice President, Julian Blanchard.

He has mentioned you on occasion in our talks, but I had no knowledge you were a serious collector of obsolete notes of any State. To know that you/is most gratifying.
are

As you mention, our Secretary, J. Roy Pennell, has just completed a work on these North Carolina notes. However, our format is considerably different than his was. I enclose a sample Format for your scrutiny. You will note that issues are grouped togethe r by denomination. This is not the easy way as you no doubt realize. Roy grouped his $5's, $10's, etc. together without regard to which issue they belonged. It will be a king sized research job to unwind the notes as he has them listed, and bring them together by issues.

I bring this to your attention beforehand, so that you are acquainted with our goal and are prepared to proceed along these lines. But again, I repeat, it is not the easy way, but by using the Wismer Listing in the Numismatist, I believe you will have no real great problems if your are desirous to see it through and have access to as many notes as possible.

Let me know your thoughts on the above.

Very Sincerely,

Fred R. Marckhoff
552 Park St.
Elgin, Ill.

July 15, 1965

Mr. Kenneth E. Bressett
Managing Editor
Whitman Publishing Co.
Racine, Wis.

Dear Mr. Bressett:

Our Society President, Thomas C. Bain, has referred completion of further details concerning our Revised Wismer Listing Project of American Obsolete Currency, with respect to your company, over to me.

As a Society, we are desirous of knowing what kind of a printing-distribution set-up would be possible with your firm, by time of our Annual Meeting at the A. N. A. Convention Convention in August of this year, at which time decisions for the forthcoming year are made.

Our goal, of course, is a new up-to-date Listing of all available Obsolete Notes known, with NOT ONLY an 'official' number assigned to each note for permanent identification (such as the Friedberg numbers on greenbacks), BUT ALSO the rarity degree of each note would be stated and established for the first time, in most instances at least. These are aids to both collector and dealer alike.

The following smaller States could all be combined into one work no doubt: Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Arizona, Alaska, Hawaii, N. Dakota, S. Dakota, New Mexico, Nevada, Wyoming, Washington, California and W. Virginia.

This would make a State the (numismatic) size of Nebraska or Kansas the smallest to be placed in spearate book form. Each of these two would run from 60 to 80 pages in length, including illustrations. Each book would be numbered as issued, to indicate being one of a Series or Set.

In this connection, we would like the square corner end piece type of binding for each work, with just the State name imprinted vertically thereon (and possibly also the volume number) , for a ready, visible reference when the books are placed together on library shelves. The smallest width of any single work would be from 3/8" to ½".

We realize this would add to cost of each work, but if necessary, part of the fee coming to us could be used to make up whatever difference this would entail in cost.

Style of each book would be uniform, with size of pages corresponding closely to those of Criswell's Vol. I and Vol. II on State Notes and Bonds. This size allows for 3 illustrations per page with only a small reduction from actual size, (actual size would be ideal of course). Length of each book would vary with number of notes of each State, but possibly no more than 3 different price ranges could be established to cover the various sizes

While printing arrangement are flexible with us, and depend much on your own operation, our Society would want from 500 to 1000 copies of each book as issued (at as near cost as possible). Whatever number of copies over and above this you retain for your own stock in trade, could be charged for at whatever price you may set for yourselves.

Very possibly, the aforementioned fee of ours, would balance out even as payment for the number of copies our Society could use each time. At least, this fee money could be applied on purchase of our 500 or so copies. At this writing, I have no information as to exact size of this fee.

A heavy stock paper would suffice, no doubt, rather than the stiff hardback cover, unless difference in cost is insignificant, or you desired to make them up both ways. If a cost per page basis could be established, it might be helpful in working up prices, etc. If less expensive to run photos only on a page, this would be satisfactory, especially if captions for each could be included, but no text.

At least one work (Nebraska) is already completed and ready for printing, and several others are nearly so. Within the next 2 to 4 years it is believed the great majority of works will be completed, leaving perhaps another year or two for the very longest, such as New York, Penna., Ohio. We are not attempting to make this a rush job, but rather a standard work, good as a reference 25 years hence. With its designation of State notes by numbers and with the establishment of Rarity ratings for the first time, these may even become 'permanent' reference works.

The matter of photographs to be used has never been gone into very deeply, but each work would no doubt use from 75 to 150 or even 200 note illustrations, including of course some small sized scrip issues which fit 6 or 8 on a page. While your firm undoubtedly has A-1 photo taking facilities on notes sent to you, the multimanned researching often makes it necessary to obtain photos when available in the course of viewing and obtaining data many times. Other Researchers would not want their notes photographed other than by someone in their homw town, or by a Museum which often do their own photographing. The cost of these pre-taken photos would have to be worked out in some way, to reimburse the Researchers, possibly by presentation of actual bills or at an established $1 or $1.50 per illustration.

While our Society has printing facilities for this effort, unfortunately we have no distribution set-up. We do believe this a lucrative project, however, as witness the Dr. Muscalus work on STATE BANK NOTES, original price of $2, now selling for $15. if and when available.

Your early attention to this matter would be appreciated in view of our Annual Meeting in August.

Very Sincerely,

Bangor Me 7/20/65

Dear Mr Marckhoff

Inclosed you will find the two bills you ordered.

A few years ago I had two bills that would have appealed to you - they were 25 & 50¢ on "The Bishops Storehouse" Salt Lake City, Utah - Sorry - they are long gone.

Thanks

H. E. Higgins
717 Main St
Bangor, Me.

A.N.A. 16571

13800 Shaker Blvd
Cleveland 44120 Ohio

JUly 25. 1965

Dear Mr. Markhoff:

Mr. Lucius Ruder just answered my letter as follows:

Dear Mr. Rosenthal:
I have your letter of July 6,
regarding the collection Of Ohio Notes.
I have not had the opportunity to catalogue
or list my Ohio Notes as yet, although it has been my inten*-
tion to publish same for the Ohio Historical Society at
the first opportune time.
If and when I do I shall be glad to
send you a copy. Sincerely
Lucius S.Ruder.

This certainly puts a different light on the work, which I started. If the Ohio Hist. Society publishes a catalog, then it is either a race or a useless proceeding to come out with a list later. I have so far listed good many notes, many of them not in Wismer,but I certainly do not want to waste my time, to be an alsoran.

Did you know, that they will have a publication of Ohio Notes on their program?

Please let me hear from you.

Sincerely yours

Fred Rosenthal